"EAGER TO MARCH."

What Admiral Courbet Says is the Feeling of the Troops.

Premier Ferry Has Not Yet Replied to Francis J. Parmenter Found Dead in His the Marquis Tseng.

Not Much Probability of the Commutation of O'Donnell's Sentence.

The War in Egypt-Matters in Ireland-Other Foreign News.

FRANCE.

Paris, Dec. 9.—Admiral Poyron, minister of marine, has received a dispatch from Saigon, dated yesterday, stating that the French forces have reconneitred to within two and a half miles of Bacninh. Admiral Courbet reconnoitred the approaches to Sontay, on the Red river, on Nov. 23. The French captured a junk near Haiphong which was laden with combustibles and had seven men on board. The subgovernment of Haidzuong, having been suspected of acting in collusion with the enemy, has been sent to Saigon for trial. Admiral Courbet, in a pri-vate letter to the governor of Cochin China, states that operations will shortly begin. He

says, "We are eager to march."
Premier Ferry still withholds his reply to
the dispatch of Marquess Tsong, in which the
latter asked that Admiral Courbet be instructed to cease operations against Sontay and Bacninh. Marquess Tseng, becoming impatient to-day, asked that an immediate response be given. The French government expects to hear at any time from Admiral expects to hear at any time from Anmar. Courbet that he has captured Sontay, Bacninh, and Honghoa as well. It is doubtful whether the reconnaissances of the gunboats on the Songkoi river discovered. Chinese forces on both sides. The river is strong, however, in its entrenchments, which extend along its banks for miles.

ENGLAND.

LONDON, Dec. 9.—It is contemplated among the friends of O'Donnell to present a among the friends of O'Donnell to present a memorial to the home secretary asking that his sentence be communted. The grounds on which the plea would be heard are that it was not established in the trial that the murder of Carey was premeditated. There is no truth in the report that Minister Lowell is making an effort to obtain a respite for O'Donnell. Mr. Lowell has received no instructions from the United States government which, in his judgment, would justify him in interfering. It will be seen, therefore, that the hopes that communtation will be granted must be extremely feeble. The general feeling is that O'Donnell will suffer the penalty at the appointed time. It is very significant in this connection also that the present home secretary, ever since he entered upon his office, has shown an unvarying predilection for executions. The demeasor of O'Donnell in his prison continues to be exemplary. When informed of the date of his execution he received the intelligence with the most complete composure, and said to be at the present lemning, who was with him. "I am the most complete composure, and said to Father Fleming, who was with him, "I am quite ready to meet my fate. I have done my duty." As he cannot read, his prayers are read to him daily. In his conversation with the wardens he is self-possessed and chearful.

with the wardens he is self-possessed and cheerful.

The Standard's correspondent on board the British ganboat Skylark, in the Red Sea, sends the following: "Her majesty's ship Amberwitch, which has just been spoken, reports that all is well at Suakim. The rebels fire into the town nightly, but do no harm. Six hundred black troops made a sally from the town on Sunday and attacked the rebels, with no definite result. The telegraph line to Jeddah has been cut. Arabs allogo that Commander Monerieff, the British consul, is still alive. This story is not believed. The still alive. This story is not believed. The country toward the south is reported to be quiet. The government is subsidizing the people in those parts. The troops stationed people in those parts. The troops stationed at Suakim keep up a continuous blaze, day and night, at the rebels who surround that town. The rebels answer the fire, but no casualities have yet occurred. The English officers have led sorties on two occasions and have put the rebel troops to flight, but each time, after pursuing them for a short dis-tance, gave up the chase and returned to the

EGYPT.

CAIRO, Dec. 9.—Dispatches received here to-day attribute the failure of El Mahdi to continue his advance on Khartoum to the breaking out of dissensions among the heads of the various tribes marching under his banner. Some of these advocate an advance upon Dongola, while others prefer an attack on Khartoum. The two factions cannot agree on

a plan of operation.

Maj. Everyn Baring has sent a dispatch to
Col. Coetlogau, insisting that an effort be made
at once to communicate, by means of emissatios, with El Obeid, in order to ascertain the truth of the rumors that a portion of Hicks l'asha's force is still entrenched at Birpet; also to learn whether the Mahdi will con ent to give up the English officers who remain pri oners in his hands, provided a suffi-

cient ransom by paid,
Zeuchr Pasau, the agent of the Egyptian
government at Kordofan, has received instructions to negotiate with the shicks who support El Mahdi for the release of all Egyp-tian prisoners. Coctlogan has been instructed to hold Khartoum until Baker Pasha formally

orders him to evacuate it. Another account of the Egyptian defeat at guakim on the fifth instant says that spice entered Suakim and reported that the hill men were hovering near the town. On hearing this Mahmond Taper Pasha, anxious to efface the defeat at Tokkar on the sixth ultime, on account of which a court martial was pending, sent forward 500 black troops and 200 bashi bazouka against the hill tribes, he himself remaining at Suakim. At the dis-tance of three hours' march from the town the Egyptians were attacked by several thousand men. The Egyptians fought stubbornly, but were cut to pieces. Fifty, of whom half were officers, escaped. This defeat of the troops which have hitherto been regarded as the flower of the army has caused great consternation bere, as it tends to show that the task of opening the route from Suakim to Berber with the material at Baker Pasha's

disposal is a nearly hopoless one.

News has reached Aden that a great force of hill tribes attacked five companies of Egyptian troops, which were reconnoitering curside of Sunkim on the fifth instant, and that severe fighting ensued, in which the Egyptians were completely annihilated and Egyptians were comple-their artillery captured.

ITALY.

ROME, Dec. 9.—Signor Lovito, who fought a duel with Baron Nicotera, on Friday last, has resigned the secretary-ship of the minis-try of the interior. Both the duelists will be proceeded.

IRELAND.

DUBLIN, Dec. 9.—English party leaders and the members of the cabinet are still unde-cided as to the policy of extending the fran-chise bill. Ireland will, consequently, remain perturbed on the subject until the cabinet meetings are resumed, which will not be until after Christmas. Whatever the decision

until after Christmas. Whatever the decision may be, it will not lead to any split in the cabinet. The Irish party is at present chiefly absorbed in its preparations for the banquet to Parnell, in Dublin, next Tuesday.

The retunda promises to be on that occasion the scene of a grand national demonstration. The lord mayor of Dublin will preside. The first toast will be, "Ireland, a Nation," and built in recent of the leaf of the leaf occasion to the leaf occasion. Davitt is expected to respond to it. The lead-

ing members of the Irish national party will be among the speakers. Covers will be laid for 600 guests, and besides these the gallery will be occupied by about 900 ladies. Subscriptions to the Parnell testimonial fund are increasing rapidly, and it is ex-pected that before Tuesday it will have reached £40,000.

A MYSTERIOUS DEATH.

WBarn tth His Skull Fractured.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 9 .- Francis J. Parmenter, a respectable and inoffensive citizen, 52 years old, engaged in the wood and coal business, was found in his barn in Bassett at about midnight last night. His Bassett at about midnight last night. His skull had been terribly fractured, presumably by blows from a knotted piece of cord wood, which was found in the yard outside the barn. His pockets had been rifled, the murderer leaving several small articles on the floor beside the body. The police arrested a man named John Martin, an employe of Parmenter, who admitted that he accompanied Parmenter to the barn at \$200'clock, and a chum named Joseph Bree, who was found under Martin's bed at his boarding place. Both are beld on suspicion. A colored man named Thomas Harket, who left Mr. Parmenter's employ early in the week, was sought after, and voluntarily surrendered himself to-day. He is also held to await the coroner's investigation. When the body was discovered it was lying on the; floor face downward, and one of the horses was standing over it eating out of a feed box, which has given rise to the theory that the man met his death by being trampled on by the animal. This theory is not generally accepted, but the coroner will make a microscopic examination of the scrapings from the horse's hoof.

KOOP RECANTS HIS CONFESSION. Amanda Fluck, the Woman He Said He Killed, Alive and Well.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Dec. 9.-The selfseused murderer, Koop, disclaims ever saying that he killed Amanda Fluck, and says his mind has been de ranged by a protracted debauch, and he does not know what he told during that time. He will be allowed to plead to the charge before the criminal court here on Tuesday, when the date for his trial will be set.

will be set.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9.—Amanda Fluck, the woman John Koop secused himself of murdering, is alive and well. living at Rock Hill, a small station on the North Ponnsylvania railroad, thirty-five miles out of Philadelphia. She says she passed most of the summer at Line Lexington, a small town in Bucks county. She had a young child with her. She had known John Koop when he was in Quakertown, she said, but he certainly had not killed her.

Grand Lodge of Elks' Election. NEW YORK, Dec. 9 .- At the annual grand

odge meeting of the Order of Elksheld to-day at their rooms, in the Masonic temple, there were present delegates from lodges in New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Chicago, St. Louis, Boston, Pittsburg, Indianapolis, Providence, Washington, Denver, Cleveland, Hartford, and Peoria. The following grand officers were elected: E. A. Perry, of Boston, exalted grand ruler; Justin H. Rathbone, of Washington esteem ed leading grand knight; William E. English, of Indianapolis, esteemed loyal grand knight; W. E. Wetherill, of St. Louis, esteemed lecturing grand knight; A. C. Moreland, of New York, grand secretary; Joseph F. Waring, of New York, grand treasuter; Hugh P. O'Neal, grand tiler; John J. Tindale and John H. Geloni, of New York; John H. Much, of Buffalo, and H. H. Dayton, of Hartford, trustees. at their rooms, in the Masonic temple, there

The Yellowstone Park Railway Company. CHEYENNE, WYO., Dec. 9.—Articles of in-corporation were filed yesterday by the Wyoming, Yellowstone Park and Pacific wyoming, relievatione Park and Pacine Railway company. Among the incorporators are L. Dupont, the newder manufacturer; A. R. Converse, president of the First National bank, Cheyenne, and Gov. Hale, of Wyoming. The road will run through the coal, iron, sods, and petroleum region of western Wyoming in the national park and Montana, and its construction will begin in the spring.

Burglars Blow Open a Safe,

BELLOWS FALLS, Vr., Nov. 9 .- The drug store of C. C. Davis, in Walpole, N. H., was entered by burglars last night. The safe was blown open and robbed of between \$7,000 and \$8,000 in bonds, securities of various kinds, and cash. Most of the bonds are registered and are not negotiable. Three men who left Bellows Falls on the "owl" train for Springfield this morning are suspected of the crime, and a reward of \$200 is offered for their arrest.

A Rolling Mill Burned.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, Dec. 9 .- The Union colling mill was almost entirely destroyed by fire this morning. The fire originated in the pumping room, it is supposed, from the stove. The loss on the building is \$20,000, and on the machinery probably between \$50,000 and \$60,000. The insurance cannot be ascertained. Much of the machinery is thought to be left in a fair condition.

A Girl Arrested for Murder.

HAMILTON, ONT., Dec. 9,-In June last, George Mitchell, 9 years old, quarreled with Raciel Babcock, when the latter struck him on the head with a file, from the effects of which he died to-day. Rachel has been arrested on a charge of murder.

Reducing Wages.

LANCASTER, PA., Dec. 9.-The Penn iron company, of this city, have notified their puddlers of a 10 per cent. reduction, to take effect on the fifteenth instant. It is probable that the works will shut down, as the workmen refuse to accept the reduction.

CABLE CATCHES.

Long, the academician, has received £7,000 for his "Flight into Egypt." Grand Duke Sergius, of Russia, is betrothed to Princess Elizabeth, of Hesse-Darmstadt, grand-daughter of the queen.

The wife of ex-Senator Windom is in Paris until fter the holidays, when she returns to her resi-lence in Washington.

Maj. Hollingshead will establish a permament theater in Loudon. Sura Bernhardt and Judie will open it for the winter season. The sultan has dispatched an aid-de-camp to Hedjase and two court dervishes to the Soudan on errands relating to El Mahdi's revot.

Wm. H. Vanderbilt has commissioned Meissonie to paint a great military picture to rival, if possible, his famous "1807," for which the late Mr Stewart paid \$20,000.

The German crown prince arrived at Soville yesterdey. He was received at the depot by the Duc de Montpensier, who gave a banquet in the prince's honor this evening.

Frederick Achard, of the Theatre Gymnase, Paris, is about to make a starring four of the United States. His roles are c'vielly Shakspearesh. He speaks English well, and his friends predict

Tennyson has been asked to reconsider his re-fusal to accept peerage, and the queen has had conveyed to him her strong desire to make him a peer. If the pressure should succeed Tennyson would probably take his own name for his title. Ouida, writing to the London Tieses, denies that abe has been converted to the Catholic religion. She says that alse has met Monisgnor Capel, whom she found to be a most agreeable person, but he never even mentioned theology to har; she never even heard him preach.

Rismarck has sent to each state in the empire a draft of his bill for compensation to workmen for injuries received while employed in factories, on railroads, &c. It is stated that this will be the first measure pressed by the government at the next meeting of the reichstag.

The intercolonial conference at Sydney, New South Wales, before adjourning passed resolutions against the landing in New Guines of convicts from other latents and against recognizing purchases of laund in New Guines before British dominion over that island has been established.

THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

TARREST BUSINESS MONTH

A Lively Struggle Between Cities for the Next Convention.

Delegations of Visiting Statesmen Pouring

It is evident that there will be a strong contest between several of the large cities to secure the location of the next republican national convention within their borders. The citizens' committee of Chicago, including Hon. A. M. Jones, chairman of the state contral committee, Mesers. George B. Swift, Daniel Shepard, and Col. Bradley are already Daniel Shepard, and Col. Bradley are already on the ground, and are propared to present the many advantages offered by that city for the accommodation of the committee. Committees from Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Saratoga, and Philadelphia are expected this afternoon, and it is also stated that Baltimore will put in a claim for the honor.

From the conversation of several members of the national committee now in the city it is inferred that Cincinnati has inaugurated a sort of still hunt for the convention, and has already secured several earnest advocates in

sort of still hunt for the convention, and has already secured several earnest advocates in the committee. Many of these who were in Cincinnati, eight years ago, however, and remember the difficulties encountered in securing accommodations in the way of a hall and hotels earnestly protest that they do not care to repeat their experience by selecting that city. Gov. Foster, who is in the city, says that he is unanimous for Cincinnati, and so are the representatives from the state.

city. Gov. Foster, who is in the city, says that he is unanimous for Cincinnati, and so are the representatives from the state.

The Indiana delegation is bent on having the convention in Indianapelis. The best talkers in the state are here already, and the advance guard will be re-enforced to-day by a Pullman car load of elequence from the Hoosier metropolis. This mighty deputation will go to work at once on the republican national committee, and bring its full powers of persuasion to bear on that body. The arguments advanced will be numerous and powerful, according to all accounts. Said one of the visiting orators last evening: "Indianapelis is a great railroad center in the first place. It is the easiest city to get into and away from in the United States. It has a large number of hotels, which can accommodate from 12,000 to 15,000 visitors, or more for that matter. The citizens will build a wigwam having a seating capacity of 8,000 or 10,000 people and set it right down by the courthouse, which has room enough to give every state a headquarters, with space to spare. The people are hospitable and energetic, and will provide for their guests. Then Indiana is a doubtful state and the holding of the convention there will stimulate the boys wenderfully. They will want stimulation if old Joe McDonald should happen to get the democratic nomination."

The entire Indiana delegation in congress, cratic nomination.

The entire Indiana delegation in congress, Mayor Grubbs and Mayor-elect McMasters, of Indianapolis, and half the Indianapolis board of trade, and Indiana officials resident

board of trade, and Indiana officials resident here will join in making the great pull. The Indiana people say the convention will be hold in their capital city or in Saratoga. They will hold a meeting at the Riggs tonight and agree upon a programme.

Saratoga is also in dead earnest, and to quote the utterances of a prominent New Yorker, "is ready to offer every inducement to secure the convention."

There appears to be a strong sectional feeling developing against the holding the convention again west of the Alleghenies, and the representatives of eastern cities will probably pool their issues and make a united effort to secure some one of the points named in the Atlantic states. Atlantic states.

Atlantic states.

There has been some discussion with regard to the vacant chairmanship, but there are too few members of the committee now in the city to gather any idea of who will be prominently urged for it.

THE SALVATION ARMY.

They Say They Will Obey God Before They Will the Chief of Police. NEW HAVEN, Dec. 9 .- Owing to the many

complaints from citizens Mayor Lewis last night issued an order addressed to t of police prohibiting the members of the sal vation army from occupying the streets or public squares, as heretofore, and directing them to refrain from sing-ing, blowing horns, and beating drums ing, blowing norms and tambourines, and tambourines, in accordance with the city ordinance prohibiting disturbances of such character. The mayor's order concludes as follows: "In conducting your meetings in a place of worship according to our good New England custom, I guarantee you full and ample protection, and will assure you that every officer will see that your rights are not interfered with."

not interfered with."

When the notice was served a member of the army said that they would beat drums and keep on parading as heretofore; that they knew the state law and constitution; they would obey God before they would the chief of police. They marched through the streets to-night as usual. The police will enforce the order to-morrow, and if the salvationists persist in their determination they will all be arrested.

A Ship's Cargo Burned.

Bosron, Dec. 9 .- The fire in the hold of the British steamship Otranto, lying at the state dock, South Boston, which started vesterday afternoon, was got under control this morning. To effect this result the fire boats were compelled to fill the steamship almost half full with water, and as a consequence the dam-age to a great portion of the cargo will be very heavy. As soon as the fire was out the very neavy. As soon as the life was out the work of pumping the vessel free of water was commenced by tugs, and by evening the hold of the steamer was completely clear, and the discharging of the rest of the freight was commenced. It is impossible at present to ascertain the damage

The Chreapenke and Ohio Canal to Close

CUMBERLAND, MD., Dec. 9 .- It is officially stated that no waybills will be issued on the Chesapeake and Ohio canal after Dec. 15, and the water will be drawn off Dec. 22. The date of closing navigation is rather late, but so far the winter has not interfered with shipments.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec 9.—An altercation arose last night between Vincent Wilson and Frank Themas in a saloon at Taylorville Thomas left the saloon, followed by Wilson, who fired several shots, fatally wounding Thomas. Wilson was arrested, but afterward escaped and is now at large.

Want the President to Interfere in O'Donnell's Case. NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The Central Labor

union met to-day and passed a resolution urgently recommending the President of the United States to interfere in the case of O'Donnell, the murderer of James Carey, and endeavor to procure a stay of his execution. Died from Her Injuries.

WORCESTER, Dec. 9.-Mrs. Holland Marble of Holden, who was injured by the accident on the Boston, Barre and Gardner railroad on the twenty-eighth ultimo, died from her in-juries to-day at the city hospital.

A Rathway Accident. SAVANNAH, Doc. 9 .- A dispatch to th Vers from Way Cross, Ga., says at 12:40 o'clock to-day the Savannah fast mail train ran into a Brunswick and Western passenger train at the crossing of the two a The engine of the Savannah struck the mail car of the train, throwing it up against

Brunswick and Western depot, and completely wrecking the building and car. A negro boy who was on the platform was killed. The agent and the telegraph operator, who were in the building at the time, narrowly escaped being killed.

CONTRACTOR PROPERTY TO

THE GREELY PARTY.

An Expedition to be Fitted Out in London to Look for the Survivors.

LONDON, Dec. 9.-Capt. Addms, whose efforts to organize an expedition to relieve survivors of the Greely Arctic expedition have attracted the attention of Europe, is a splendid specimen of the British sailor of the best class. He is a man of striking physique, standing fully six feet high, and strongly built in proportion. His first experience in Arctic waters was in 1851, when, though but it years old, he was placed in command of a whaler, and made a voyage to Greenland, which was long spoken of by the fishermen of Dundee as a most remarkably successful one.

Capt. Adams feels confident that some of Greely's party still survive. He does not think it is the duty of the British governthink it is the duty of the British government to arrange an expedition for their relief, but says there are plenty of Englishmen who love and admire the Americans, and, aside from motives of common humanity, would gludly join in fitting out an expedition. He suggests the employment of a powerful steel steam yacht of about 300 tons burthen, strengthened with special reference to Arctic navigation.

strengthened with special reference to Arctic navigation.

A novel feature of his scheme is that plenty of cabin room be provided for the secommodation of such passengers as may wish to make a tour in the Arctic region and are willing at the same time to contribute their share of the expenses of the trip. He has devised peculiar ice anchors, which will greatly assist in navigating through masses of ice, and also process to carry apparatus for blasting, by which he expects to break a passage through ice fields, in which he would otherwise be held at the mercy of the elements.

There will also be a complete outfit of icesaws, whaleboats, and sleighs, so that the party will be prepared for any emergency. Capt. Adams thinks the best time for the yacht to start from England be early in June. He would make first for Cape York, and thence proceed along the coast, calling at the mouths of all the creeks, and carefully sailing around all the islands off the coast in the hope that some of the American explorers may have landed in that vicinity.

ing around all the islands off the coast in the hope that some of the American explorers may have landed in that vicinity.

He says he will undertake to make the passage and return in the space of three mon the from the time of starting.

The Arctic navigators in Dund ee approve Capt. Adam's plans.

RAPID IMPROVEMENT.

How Greatly a Virginia Town Has Changed in a Year. Epecial Disputch.

LVNCHBURG, VA., Dec. 9.-A new Catholic church, very handsome and comfortable, though not costly, was dedicated at Amhurst Courthouse on last Sabbath by the Rev. Bishop Keane, of Richmond. The services

Bishop Keane, of Richmond. The services were very impressive, and the church, whose paster is the Rev. F. H. McCarry, promises to be a very presperous and growing one.

To show now rapidly a country grows in development when touched by railroads and the Mean horse, it may be stated that the little country village of Martinsville, (Henry court house,) which, a year or so ago, numbered only two or three hundred population, when fifty miles away from a railway, now numbers nearly 1,500 thriving people since reached by Maj. Sutherlin's narrow gauge road counceting with the Virginia Midland and Richmond and Danville reads.

Two hundred new houses have gone up in that time, and various new industries established and old ones largely increased in number and capacity. The road is still pushing forward through Patrick, one of the richest fruit, timber, and mineral countries in the state, and in a year or two it will connect with the North Cocoline valleaged in the North North Cocoline valleaged in the state, and in a year or two it will connect with the North Cocoline valleaged in the state, and in a year or two it will connect

state, and in a year or two it will connect with the North Carolina railroads in the morthwestern portion of that state, develop-ing up a splendid and rich country of population and wealth.

One of the most spirited revivals of reli-gion ever known in this section has been pro-gressing in the colored Baptist churches of this city for the last four weeks. In the First Hantist church there have been as many as sighty-seven converts, and in the Second with Rev. Mr. Cocks as pastor, the number reaches nearly 200. On Sunday last as many as eighty-five were baptized, though the da was extremely inclement and disagreeable Rev. Mr. Cocks is from Washington city.

A BIG FIRE.

The Annisquam Mill at Rockport Burner -Loss \$400,000

GLOUCESTER, Mass., Dec. 9.—The Annis quam mill at Rockport caught fire at 7:30 o'clock this morning from a lighted lantern coming in contact with lint on a belt in the engine room. The fire spread rapidly to the upper story. The aprinkler was at once put in operation, but failed to check the names, in operation, but failed to check the fames, which gained rapidly, completely enveloping the interior. The Rockport fire department was unable to cope with such a confingration, but with assistance rendered from Gloucester and Salem the picker room and storehouse, containing 400 bales of cotton, were saved. The loss is estimated at \$400,000; insured for \$500,00 in the Manufacturers' Mutual companies of Boston, Providence, and other cities. The mill was built of granite in 1846, and was formerly used for the manufacture of duck, but latterly for the manufacture of corset jeans. It employed 235 operatives, with a pay-roll of \$5,000 per month, and these are now out of work. The mill was incorporated and owned by a stock company controlled by Boston parties. The tenement houses connected with the manufacture of the manufacture of the manufacture of store the manufacture of the manufacture of store the manufacture of the manufacture of store the store ties. The tenement houses connected with it were saved. John Haskell, a watchman, was saverely burned, but no other accidents are reported. The company own \$100,000 worth of other real estate in Rockport. In case of rebuilding the structure, which is hoped for, the walls will have to all be taken down. The machinery is ruined, but it is thought three out of five of the boilers will Death of a Prominent Clergyman.

Boston, Dec. 9 .- The Rev. John O. Means D. D., corresponding secretary of the Ameri-can board of foreign missions, died in this city yesterday.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

The Merrimac Chemical works at North Wo-—Mr. W. C. Henderson, manager of the Balti-more Union club, states that L. J. Corceran, one of the pitchers of the league, has broken the reserve rule and y esterday signed to play with the Chicago Union Association club.

—Thomas Evans, a pension attorney at Eris, Pa, has mysteriously disappeared. Evans is in-firm, nearly blind, and worth \$100,000. He was tried and acquited last month of the charge of using washed postage stamps.

—On June 1 William Green, a highly respected resident of Anderson county, Tenn., was bitten by a mad dog. The wound was cauterized; it healed. Mr. Green thought no more about the matter till Friday, when symptoms of hydrophobis were detected. He went into convulsions and died Saturday evening in terrible agony.

-F. K. Hallou, one of the best known contractors in Boston, has becom libel suits against the Boston Globe for \$20,000; and the New York Thees for \$60,000. The complaint is based upon statements affecting Mr. Ballou's integrity as a business man. He was charged in dispatches to these newspapers with having rim away from Mystic, Conn., leaving obligations to the amount of \$25,000. Mr. Ballou denies the charges.

Of \$50,000. Mr. Bailou denies the charges.

—The schooner yacht Dauntless will sail from Newport for the Azores this week and thence to the Carary Islands and Morocco. While at Morocco Mr. Colt and his guests will engage in shooting and boar hunting. The next place to be visited will be Gibraitar. Sail will thence be set for Nice. The yacht will remain at Nice several weeks. The cruise will last at least six months. The yacht will return via Bermuda and the West Indies.

DYNAMITE WOLFF.

Up the German Embassy Operated at

How the Man Who Attempted to Blow

Monaco. LONDON, Dec. 9 .- Genuine socialists take no stock in the protestation of membership in their propaganda by Wolff, who is waiting in their propagands by Wolf, who is waiting trial for attempting to blow up the German embassy. One of the best known socialists of this city to-day declared that Wolff first made his appearance in England in November, 1882. He pretended to be a younger brother of Emile Gautier, the French anarchist writer, who was soon afterward sentenced with Prince Krapotkine and others to five

with Prince Krapotkine and others to five years' imprisonment for conspiring against public order at Lyons.

Herr Most, of the Freiheit, who was imprisoned for utterances offensive to the German government, and who, when he was released, became prominent among socialist leaders, was approached about this time by the pretended Gautier, who unfolded to him a plot which was to make a fortune for the participants.

The plan was that they, with one or two The plan was that they, with one or two others, were to go to Monaco and become frequenters of its famous gambling saloons. Upon a given signal, they were to explode a dynamite bomb under one of the tables and during the confusion were to saize all the money they could lay hands upon.

Each was also to have secreted a bottle of petroleum, which he was to break and ignite, so that the horrors of a conflagration might be added to those of the explosion and aid in convering their flight.

All Wolf, or Gautier, asked of Most was to arrange for the manufacture of suitable bombs.

bombs.

Most was suspicious of Gautier, and, through the revolutionary bureau, ascertained that Emile tiautier had never had a brother. He convinced himself that his visitor was a tool of the police, employed to inveigle him into a conspiracy and betray him to another imprisonment. He washed his hands of the conspiracy, but the explosion and attempted robbery occurred soon after, and Most believes that Wolff and his fellows were the percentators. It was during an exeming Most believes that Wolff and his fellows were the perpetrators. It was during an evening of November, 1882, when play in Monace had been high. Suddenly there was a terrible explosion, and a rush of the habitues to the doors and windows. Ladies fainted, and confusion was general, but the employes of the place, evidently prepared for just such a contingency, instantly shouted: "Protect your money, gentlemen, this is the work of robbers."

The coolness of the officials saved most of the money, but the plotters were never cap-tured. It is now believed that it was Wolff's

Counsel allege that this plot was contrived by Louis Bondurand, a brother of the Bondu-rand arrested with Wolff, and who is admit-

tedly a mouchard. HOW TO CATCH FISH.

The Fish Commisson Paraphrase Jonah

and the Whale. Referring to the methods in use on the fish commission steamer Albatross for catching commission steamer Albatross for catching rare specimens of doep-sea fishes, oftentimes of the miles below the surface, a gentleman connected with the vessel said last evening to a REPUBLICAN reporter that a peculiar shaped wire dredge (or seine) is used. It has runners, similar to those of a sled, curled up at both ends, the seine part being made of finely knitted wire. A flexible wire rope is attached to the dredge, which is lowered and raised by two engines, built expressly for the purpose. Much difficulty is experienced in securing the small fishes in perfect condition. The great pressure of the water, as the dredge is being hoisted to the surface, forces the fishes against the wire netting and mutilates many of them beyond recognition. Most of the uninjured specimens are gotten in a novel manner. Nearly every haul of the dredge captures large fish, some of them the size of a man, and the same great pressure which mutilates the smaller fishes causes the larger ones to expand their jaws and open their mouths. Many of the little ones find their way into these capacious openings, and are brought to the surface alive and well preserved. "We have taken large fish by the tail," said the speaker, "and in many cases dumped out a bucketful of specimens on the deck."

A \$200,000 Fire. rare specimens of deep-sea fishes, oftentimes

A \$200,000 Fire. ERIE, PA., Dec. 9 .- The engine room of the Mount Hickory rolling mills was discovered to be on fire at 2 o'clock this morning. As the mills were outside the city limits the fire de partment refused to respond to the call until permission was granted by the mayor. This caused great delay, and the mills were totally destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$200,000;

insurance, \$90,000. The Press Club.

At the regular semi-annual meeting of the Washington Press club, held yesterday afternoon, the reports of the various officers were read, and indicated that the club was in a flourishing condition. The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year: President, E. W. Brady; vice presidents, C. F. Towle, H. P. Godwin, and P. V. DeGraw; towie, H. P. Godwin, and F. V. DeGraw, treasurer, F. H. Traesdell; recording secretary, W. E. Ringwalt; corresponding secretary, J. T. Bivins. Executive committee: F. T. Howe, H. L. West, C. F. Towle, John Doyle, P. V. DeGraw, A. J. Clark, J. P. Miller, H. P. Godwin, and E. M. Hood.

Business in the House. The regular order of business in the house of representatives to-day will be the call of states for the introduction of bills and joint resolutions for reference only. On the first "bill day" of the last congress 722 bills were introduced before adjournment, at which time Massachusetts had been reached in the call of the states. By unanimous consent the same order of business was continued during the next parliamentary day, and a portion of the third. When the call of states was finished 1,955 bills had been intro

Assigning the Seats.

At a meeting of the press representatives entitled to seats in the reporters' gallery of the house held Saturday afternoon, Messra. Boynton, Stealey, and Wight were reap-pointed a committee to scrutinize credentials of representatives and assign seats; and Messra. Stealey, Carson, and MacBride constituted a committee to confer with Doorkeeper Wintersmith regarding the doorkeeper of the

The Unity Club.

The third meeting of the Unity club was held Friday at the residence of Dr. Dufour, 1818 Fourteenth street. The following named persons added much to the occasion with songs, recitations, and instrumental music: Misses Birdie Hayden, Hawes, Maud Sharp, Grace Dufour, Anna Raus, Eva Henderso and Messrs. Duncan and Wells

George Meade Post.

The officers elected Friday night by George Meade post No. 5, G. A. R., for the ensuing year are M. Dillon, commander; J. B. Dowd, senior vice commander; E. S. Fletcher, junior vice commander; T. L. Miller, quartermas-ter; Samuel Boscher, officer of the day, and P. H. Burkhardt, chaplain.

duce to-day a bill providing for the promotion of Gen. Sheridan to the rank of general of the army, and of Gen. Haucock to that of lioutenant general.

Promoting Hancock and Shertdan.

Congressman Davis, of Illinois, will intro

The Weather To-Day. Fair weather, colder northwest, backing to warmer southwest winds, falling, preceded on the coast by ris-ing barometer.

Yesterday's thermometer: 7 a. m., 46.5°; 11 a. m. 46.6°; 3 p. m., 49.3°; 7 p. m., 43.0°; 11 p. m., 36.5°; maximum, 57.0°; minimum, 55.5°. Precipitation,

PRODIGIOUS PAVING FRAUDS

How the Contractors Have Been Swindling New York City.

Evidently with the Connivance of the City Officials.

'Unbalanced Bids" and How They Operated to the Benefit of the Bidder.

The Taxpayers Fleeced Out of Over Six Millions of Dollars.

Special Disputen.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9 .- The Tribune to-day gives an expose of frauds in the department of public works of the city by means of unbalanced bids, by which millions have been fleeced from the taxpayers.

The system of unbalanced bidding depends

upon misleading estimates. If there is to be really a large amount of earth excavation and a small amount of rock excavation, the estimates reverse the amounts. Bids are invited for a small amount of earth excavation and a large amount of rock excavation. A contractor knowing the truth concealed by the estimates bids a nominal price for rock and a big price for earth. In that way on the face of the estimates his total bid will be low. But as he is paid by the cubic yard, according to the returns on the completed work, his bid in the end will turn out to be the highest, and the city will consequently be de-frauded. If a contractor bids I cent per suble yard for excavating rock and \$2 per

cubic yard for excavating rock and \$2 per cubic yard for excavating earth, the bid is plainly "unbalanced." It is out of all reason, and shows at a glance that it is not honest. But the departments are full of contracts made on just such bids.

Alleged errors of a startling character have been discovered in the estimates prepared by engineers employed by the public works department. At least one contractor in every case is aware of these errors (?) before he makes his bid, and is thus able to secure contracts at figures out of all proportion to the value of the work. Contractors have been paid over \$100,000 for work on which their total bid was less than \$15,000. One is receiving \$5 a cubic yard for excavating earth, while the value of the work is not more than fifty cents a cubic yard for the same work, and another is receiving \$5.50. In the park department one contractor was recently paid \$50 a cubic yard for excavating rock, while another was doing similar work for \$2 a cubic yard, which was a fair price. In the public works department again one was paid \$10 a cubic yard for rock excavation, and other contractors have been paid from \$2 to \$6 a yard for the same work, the fair value of which was established by the assessment commission at less than \$2 a cubic yard.

Differences of an equally startling character exist in all other kinds of work which is done by contract in the public works department, and which is paid for by the issue of city interest-paying bonds. In street-paying contracts one contractor was paid \$3.48 a square yard, another \$2.05, and another \$3.47, while other contractors did the same work for \$1.58 and \$1.57 a square yard. One man paid \$165 cach for receiving basins, while another interest paying bonds. In street-paying contracts one contractor was paid \$3.48 a square yard, another \$2.05, and another \$3.47, while other contractors did the same work for \$1.58 and \$1.57 a square yard. One man paid \$616.

The cost of the improvements under these contracts is assessed against the property be

lumber which snother one furnishes for \$20. The cost of the improvements under these contracts is assessed against the property bonefited. The work, however, is paid for by the issuance of city bonds, which are paid off when the assessments are collected. The assessed property owners go into the courts and prove that the cost of the work is excessive and the courts vacate the assessments. The loss is then added to the city debt, which is paid by several taystion. general taxation.
It is stated that since 1876 the city has lost

ties, and excessive cost in assessment work.

ties, and excessive cost in assessment work.

Nearly all this loss has been caused by unbalanced bids.

Samples of contracts are given, showing
the frauds upon specific classes of work, and
a table is published, from which it appears
that upon contracts now in operation the following widely varying prices are being paid:
For earth excavation, from 1 cent to \$5 per cubic yard; for rock excavation, from i cent to \$10 per cubic yard; for filling, from 1 cent to 40 cents per cubic yard; for new curb stones, from i cent to 60 cents per linear foot, and for new flagging, from i cent to 27

cents per square foot.

In regard to one contract, where the estimates were fraudulently made by the engineer, it is stated that the contractor, whose total bid was only \$15,676, will get from the city \$112,000.
Other revelations of an equally startling

character are made, showing that the frauds permeste nearly every department of the Report on a Mandamus

A mandamus was issued by the supreme court of the District of Columbia, a few days ago, directing the second comptroller of the treasury to hear and decide a claim against the government for the action of United States troops in forcibly taking and occupying certain property in Maryland owned by James H. Egan during the war of the rebellion. The second comptroller has since made a re-port on the case to the secretary of the treasnry, in which he recommends that it be ap-pealed to the supreme court of the United States.

PERSONAL.

Mr. E. K. Douglass, of Montreal, Canada, is in town visiting old friends. Dr. A. K. Platt, China, and A. H. Clark, Kentucky, are at the Arlington. Paul Bakwell, of St. Louis, and F. Palmer Fitt, New York, are at Wormley's.

Col. J. B. Burr, Connecticut, and H. McCaffrey, Chicago, are at the Harris house. Secretary Lincoln and Attorney General Brow-ter have both returned to Washington.

Mr. C. A. Davis, of the Madison Square com-bination, payed a flying visit to Washington last L. C. Casey and wife, Kentucky; Paul Bou Paris, and Hon. Charles Foster, Ohio, are a.

Ez-Postmaster General Tyner, Col. R. O. M. Douglas, North Carolins, and E. W. Gould, St. Louis, are at the Ebbitt.

W. H. Barnett, New York; A. L. Smith, St. Joseph, Mo.; M. Brunswick, Los Vegas, N. M., and H. S. Anderson, Chicago, Ill., are at Wilard's.

Hon. Faul Strobach, member of the national committee from Alabama, has arrived in the city and has taken rooms at 52, Third atreet northwess. M. Van Worner, Melrose, Mass.; E. H. Coleman, New York; J. C. Bull, Chicago; E. C. Spinney, Burlington, Lowa; W. B. Henderson, Martinsyllie, Ind.; Hon, W. B. Myers, Indiana, are at the St.

B The resignation of Mr. S. P. Bayly, United States convoil at Palermo, Italy, was received at the de-partment of state Saturday. He was appointed by President Grant in 1876, and has served con-tained by President Grant in 1876, and has served con-tained by President Grant in 1876, and has served con-

tinuously ever since. W. Talbot Walke, Norfolk, Va.; Gen. James M. Igner, U. S. A.; Col. Robert Douglas, Greenshore, N. C.; Frauk Hopsius, Alex, Glichrist, Evansville, Ind.; Mrs. F. Hammar, F. P. Hammar, P. G. Hammar, Cincinnati, and F. W. Geule, St. Louis, are at the Eablit.

Louis, are at the Roblit.

Mr. Peyton Finley, of Alabama, arrived in this city yesterday, and is stopping at the Shakapeare house, No. 359 Pennsylvania avenue. Mr. Finley is one of the most notable colored men in the south. He was a member of the first constitutional canvention fafter the war) of Alabama, and was then appointed by President Grant to be receive of the general land office of that state, and served out sitterm with noner. He was required to give lands in \$116,000, and was one of the very law colored mea in the south who could do so.